



## **LRSP Status Report – June 2012**

### **4.01 LO School Environment SR 2012**

#### **Strategic Objective (SO):**

4.01 Create safe, supportive, engaging and healthy school environments.

#### **Topic of Strategic Objective (SO):**

Foundations

**Department/School:** Longfellow Elementary

**Leader: Principal**

#### **Team Members:**

Mary Cota, Laurie Spence, Linda Babcock, Jill Lea, Steve Wheeler, Clarissa Were, Randy Walthall

#### **In a year, we hope to see the following progress on this strategic objective:**

1. All 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will successfully complete the DARE program.
2. More consistent use of “common language” by students and school staff when addressing common area expectations and concerns.
3. Parent, student and staff surveys will be completed and evaluated for progress toward goals.

### **PROGRESS SUMMARY**

1. Objective 1 was completed.

All 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students participated in the DARE Program designed for BPS under the leadership of Abram Antonucci, DARE Officer and Steve Wheeler, Health Enhancement Teacher at Longfellow School.

2. Objective 2 was addressed and progress was sustained.

Consistency of common language was sought through classroom conversations and lunchroom/playground reminders. The school's Foundations Team was reorganized with new members joining the team and previous members moving to other school responsibilities. The school continues to use common language for the common areas of the school: bathrooms, hallways, lunchroom, assemblies, playgrounds.

All of the Foundations team spent two days of training in the Olweus anti bullying approach. The team developed a common understanding and began to develop a language for introducing the approach to the Longfellow staff. The entire staff will be trained on August 27, 2012.

3. Objective 3 was completed.

All 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> graders took the OLWEUS online survey regarding attitudes and experiences at Longfellow. This is a new survey for us and supports the training that was completed this year and the approach we will have next year. The Longfellow Foundations team will use the data to target the most common forms of bullying behavior: verbal, exclusion, physical and rumors.

As we have known for several years, the playgrounds remain the areas where bullying and unkind behaviors are most prevalent. Because of this, Longfellow has continued to focus on increasing the frequency of students reporting respectful behaviors on the playground while reducing the incidents of bullying behavior. Our team is confident that with the introduction of the Olweus approach, more students will experience fewer incidents of bullying behavior at Longfellow.

In addition to the student survey, a parent and a staff survey were administered and will inform planning for the 2012-2013 school year.

Parents responding to the online survey expressed satisfaction with the school and confirmed student attitudes about disrespectful behaviors on the playground. With the introduction of the Olweus approach and the training that parents will receive, it is hoped that significant progress can be made to further reduce the level of disrespect and bullying that takes place at Longfellow.